reasons for calling it an infidel Convention &c. — And if there are any other documents or publications within your reach, calculated to shed any light upon Garrison's principles, you will confer an esteemed favor by forwarding the same to me by mail. — My object is to satisfy his friends here of the infidel character of the map & the worse than infidel tendency of his present measures. — If I am wrong in thus judging, I shall be exceedingly happy to find that I have erred: — but honestly I can view his operations in no better light. — Indeed, since writing the foregoing, I have been informed through a Clergyman at Willimantic, that Garrison distinctly told Mr. Coolding, the State Ag.t at the recent Convention held there, that he thought he should waive the "Abolition" question for the present, as there were "other principles" more important, that seemed to require his attention. — What those other principles are, so important, you will decide for yourself. —

In conclusion, I would simply suggest, that whatever I have written you at this time, or whatever you may communicate in answer, will not be understood as designed to go before the public, thro' the medium of the Press.

With sentiments of respect

I am yours in the bonds of Christian affection

Walter Goodell

(P. M.)

He is much beloved by his people generally: and until the introduction of Garrisonism with all its concomitant evils, we were the most happily united of any Church in this region. But surveying our present condition, the humble followers of Christ look forward with distrust & alarm: — the future seems fraught with tremendous results to the cause of Zion. — Where all these commotions in the moral world will end, none but the Almighty Sovereign of the Universe can tell. — He alone can cause the wrath of Man to praise him, and the remainder thereof restrain. —

Before I close, Dear Sir, permit me to state, that there are three or four charges made against Mr. Garrison, but denied by his friends, the truth of which I am anxiously desirous of eliciting, and hope you will not fail to inform me at your earliest convenience. —

1st Is the Non-Resistant published at the Office of the "Liberator", and is Mr. Garrison one of its Editors & publicly known as such?

2nd Does Mr. Garrison avow himself opposed to the resolution offered by Mr. St. Clair, declaring the Bible to be the only authoritative rule of faith & duty, & was he one of the 30 who voted against its adoption?

3rd Is Mr. Garrison a Professor of religion, & if so, to what Church or denomination is he attached?

4th How many years had Anti-Slavery Societies existed in Boston & New York before the subject of "Woman's rights" was first introduced into the Conventions; & was not Mr. Garrison a prime mover in bringing it up, & has he not invariably advocated the principle?

I have herewith inclosed you One Dollar, for which please send me ~~inclosed~~ well enveloped, by Mail, your late work entitled, "An Argument for the perpetuity of the Sabbath": — likewise a Copy of the "N. E. Christian Advocate" containing an article written by yourself, proving that Garrison was a "prime mover" in the Anti-Sabbath Convention, with

and believing that it is the duty of every friend of Christ to labor long & faithfully to convince those who may have imbibed honest, but mistaken views of the practical tendency of such innovations; it would give me much satisfaction to be informed of Mr. Garrisons true sentiments as developed under your observation. — If he claims that the Bible is of no binding authority in matters of religious faith & duty; if he is an advocate of the no-human government theory; if he is for uprooting the Sabbath, the Ministry & the Church; if in addition to all these, he is wedded to the doctrine which allows females to take part in Meetings & Conventions by voting, accepting office, or participating in the debates; a doctrine now promulgated under the more popular name of "Womans rights"; if these principles & views, do in fact constitute a part of his creed, and that of his Coadjutors, is it not the duty of every Christian fully to understand, & make them known? —

When Mr. Garrison is charged with holding the foregoing sentiments, his friends here are not disposed to admit that he approves them: — And in the resolutions offered by him at the recent Convention held in Chardon St. Chapel, there is evidently a labored effort to conceal the real character of that Convention, & give such a construction to its acts as would tend to dissipate all fears if any were indulged. —

I cannot therefore, but consider it of vital importance to the cause of truth & religion, that the mask should be stript off, and the public made acquainted with the true sentiments of all such teachers and Reformers. — I rejoice to see that there are those who can stand up fearlessly & defend the blessed institutions of our holy Religion against the machinations of designing & wicked men. — The Lord grant they may be increased a thousand fold. —

The Church in this village is under the pastoral care of Rev E. Dickinson, who, about 5 years since was settled over a Congregational Church in Canton, Mass. —

Walter Goodell,
Chaplin (Windham Co.) Con.

April 20th 1841.

asking information of Garrison
Sentiments

Rev Amos A. Phelps

3

Dr Sir

Although a stranger to you personally, yet I trust a feeling, in common with all who love the cause of the Redeemer, and who mourn over the desolations of Zion in this land of our Pilgrim fathers, fills my heart, and has led me to address you at this time. —

You are doubtless aware that many of the Churches in this vicinity, & in other parts of the State, are infested with emissaries from the school of Garrison, Wright & Rogers, who, under the philanthropic garb of Anti-Slavery, are for abolishing all those principles in government & religion which have been considered as established & venerable by our fathers: and with untiring zeal are insiduously sowing the seeds of infidelity & disunion, which have already sprung up, producing blight & barrenness & moral death around. The Church in this place has not escaped the effects of this pestilential sirocco. — We have been visited by Hudson, by Abby Kelly & others, whose influence is to be deprecated by all the wise & the good; and notwithstanding the Lord was graciously pleased to pour out his Holy Spirit here during the past year, & to make signal displays of his power & grace in the conversion of many souls, yet we have so soon forgotten God; become divided in sentiment; & alienated feelings exist between brethren. — Some have drank so deeply of Garrisonism as to have become apparently insensible to the Skeptical & destructive tendency of his principles; and because of his flaming zeal in behalf of the oppressed, are unwilling to believe that he is disguisedly aiming a blow at our civil & religious institutions, and attempting to subvert all that has been held sacred & divine upon the authority of God himself. —

Knowing from the public prints that you have taken a deep interest in resisting the encroachments of such men,